

The Radiogram

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Spring 2016

Volume 6, Issue 1

EMA Station Updates

[CCEMA Bunker](#)

by Tim Watson, KB1HNZ



WINDHAM, ME - The Emergency Communications Team have been active throughout the winter making improvements to the station at the EMA bunker in Windham. The most noticeable updates took place on Thursday, March 31st.

[Full Story](#)



WSSM at the Maine State ARRL Convention

[ARRL Hamfest, Auburn, ME](#)

by Tim Watson, KB1HNZ

ECT Constitution Adopted

[Gorham, ME](#)

by Tim Watson, KB1HNZ



GORHAM, ME - On February 18th, members of the WSSM formally established the WSSM Emergency Communications Team, with a unanimous vote of approval.

[Full Story](#)



VE Exam in Gorham

[ARRL VE Session, March 17th](#)

by Tim Watson, KB1HNZ



AUBURN, ME - For the 5th consecutive year, the WSSM setup a booth at the Maine State ARRL Convention, promoting Amateur Radio as well as club activities. The event was also a great opportunity to meet new folks and club members who we don't see regularly.

[Full Story](#) >

Maine 2 Meter FM Simplex Challenge Results

[Gorham, ME](#)

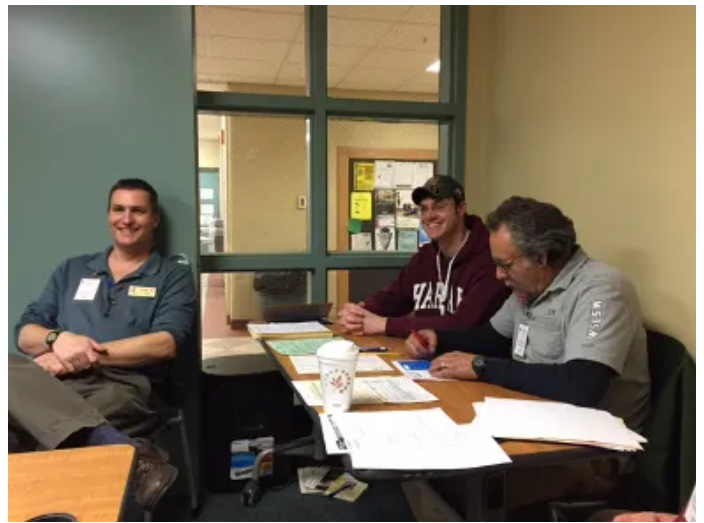
by Tim Watson, KB1HNZ



GORHAM, ME - The results are in for this year's 2 Meter FM Simplex Challenge! Click on the button below for a complete rundown as well as visual point-to-point and coverage studies.

[Full Story](#) >

QSL Corner



GORHAM, ME - On March 17th, the WSSM VE Team hosted an exam session at the Gorham Recreation Department.

[Full Story](#) >

WS1SM Team to Activate Portland Head Light for ILLW

[August 20-21, 2016](#)

by Tim Watson, KB1HNZ



The WS1SM Team will activate Portland Head light during this year's International Lighthouse and Lightship Weekend, which will take place August 20-21st.

[Full Story](#) >

WSSM Members Provide Communications for MS Walk

[Walk MS Portland](#)

by Tim Watson, KB1HNZ



We'll explore some QSLs submitted by Stefania Watson K1GJY, from some of this winter's most popular DXpeditions, as well as one from shortwave broadcaster, Radio Habana Cuba.

[See More QSL's >](#)

On Saturday, April 23rd, WSSM members, including David Wood KB1FGF, Stefania Watson K1GJY, and Tim Watson KB1HNZ, provided communications support for the MS Walk in Portland, ME.

[Full Story >](#)

UPCOMING MEETINGS

June 9th - from 7PM-9PM at Wassamki Springs Campground, 56 Saco Street, Westbrook, ME.

July 14th - from 7PM-9PM at Wassamki Springs Campground, 56 Saco Street, Westbrook, ME.

August 11th - from 7PM-9PM at Wassamki Springs Campground, 56 Saco Street, Westbrook, ME.

Classified Ads

Check out the ads on page 2 to view items for sale, upcoming hamfests, announcements, and wanted items.



From the Editor's Desk

Spring Fever

With winter behind us, we can finally look forward to some outdoor activities in the coming weeks, and we've already been busy getting permission for our next ILLW outing, which will take us to Portland Head Light in August, as well as our next Summits on the Air (SOTA) event. As always, if anyone has summit suggestions, we're interested! You can [click here](#) to see if its on the SOTA list of summits.

The last few months have brought some excellent DX opportunities, as many rare entities were active during the winter DX contests, for DXpeditions, and most recently for CQWW WPX. Among the new ones I was able to get were K5P, 5V7D, 5JoP, and VKoEK. We've seen HF conditions mostly favor frequencies below 20 MHz in recent weeks, but there was some decent activity on 10 and 12 meters between mid January and early February.

It was great to see everyone at this year's ARRL Maine State Convention, held in Lewiston at the end of March. Although small in scale, the hamfest is always a great place to meet folks that we talk with on the air and even meet some of our members who live outside the area and can't make it to meetings.

In other news, we've been making lots of progress with the amateur radio station at Cumberland County EMA. One of the first things that needed to take place was a good cleaning and organizing, and improvements to the workspace. Charlie W1CPS, built some nice shelves, which we were able to use to setup the radios and power supplies, opening up some table space below. On March 31st, we rewired the stations in their new locations and also installed a new battery backup. Ryan KB1YTR worked on reprogramming the VHF/UHF radio, and has been also updating the PC with needed programs and a desktop link to Google Drive for quick access to important files.

Since then, we've made tremendous progress on the stations themselves, including the addition of Signalink USB interfaces, and a new DMR radio. We've also setup two PCs and a laptop with software programs such as FLDigi and RMS Express, and have configured the stations for transmitting digital messages.

Since many of us work full time and can't always get out to start a net, volunteers are always needed to do SKYWARN callups during weekdays if severe weather events occur, especially during thunderstorm season, which is fast approaching. If you're interested in helping out, please contact me, and we will provide you with all the information and training you need.

73,

Tim Watson
KB1HNZ

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